

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 SAM-01 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01

/093 W

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R 201150Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 245

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS CAIRO 2233

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, EG, XF

SUBJECT: TRAVEL BY PRESIDENT SADAT TO SAUDI ARABIA AND GULF STATES

1. LOCAL PRESS FEBRUARY 20 ANNOUNCED THAT, DUE TO INVITATIONS FROM LEADERS OF GULF STATES, PRESIDENT SADAT TO UNDERTAKE VISIT TO GUL AFTER TERMINATION OF HIS UPCOMING VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA. ACCORDING TO REPORTS FROM "OFFICIAL SOURCES IN RIYADH," SADAT TO DEPART SAUDI ARABIA FEBRUARY 26 AND OVERNIGHT IN ABU DHABI. O FEBRUARY 27, PRESIDENT TO LUNCH IN BAHRAIN PRIOR TO OVERNIGHT IN QATAR. SADAT TO SPEND FEBRUARY 28 IN KUWAIT AND CURRENTLY EXPECTED TO RETURN TO CAIRO ON FEBRUARY 29.

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2. ACCORDING TO LOCAL PRESS REPORTS, SAUDI OFFICIAL SOURCE IN RIYADH STATED THAT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN SADAT AND SAUDI LEADERS TO INVOLVE WAYS TO HEAL CURRENT BREACHES IN ARAB RANKS AND POSSIBILITIES OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN EGYPT AND SAUDI ARABIA. PRESS REPORTS STATE THAT TALKS BETWEEN SADAT AND KING KHALID TO TAKE PLACE IN RIYADH ON FEBURARY 21 AND 22 AND THEN TO TRANSFER TO ROYAL CAMP IN NORTHERN SAUDI ARABIA FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS DURING NEXT FEW DAYS PRIOR TO FEBRUARY 25 RETURN OF ENTIRE PARTY TO RIYADH.

3. ACCORDING TO MENA REPORT, OFFICIAL EGYPTIAN DELEGATION TO SAUDI ARABIA TO INCLUDE PRIMIN SALIM, DEPPRIMIN/FONMIN FAHMY, HOUSING AND RECONSTRUCTION MIN OSMAN PLANNING AND PLANNING MIN HELMI ABU AL-RAHMAN, SADAT'S OFFICE DIRECTOR HASAN KAMIL, SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL CONTACTS MARWAN, PRESIDENT'S MILITARY AIDE GENERAL MAHI, AND PRESIDENTIAL CHAMBERLAIN FUAD TAYMUR.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH LOCAL PRESS STORIES DO NOT CITE OFFICIAL EGYPTIAN SOURCES FOR DETAILS OF SADAT'S EXTENDED TRIP TO GULF, BOTH AHAM AND GUMHURIYYA BANNER HEADLINE STORY (WHICH ALSO PROMINENTLY FEATURED IN AKHBAR) AND IT APPEARS UNLIKELY THAT SEMI-CONTROLLED EGYPTIAN PRESS WOULD PRINT DETAILS OF PRESIDENT'S TRAVEL IF THESE LANS HAD NOT BEEN CHECKED, AT LEAST INFORMALLY, IN OFFICIAL EGYPTIAN CIRCLES.
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